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HOUSE BILL 2484

By Bittle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54, and to enact the "Tennessee Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Highway Act of 2002."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54, Chapter 5, Part 10, is amended by adding the following new sections:

54-5-1003. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Highway Act of 2002."

54-5-1004. The purpose of this act is to recognize and memorialize any full-time commissioned law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty.

54-5-1005.

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3-2-112, any Tennessee law enforcement officer killed while in the performance of such officer's duties may, by the determination of the commissioner of safety, qualify and be entitled to this recognition; provided, that such officer meets each of the following requirements:

(1) The officer must be a full-time commissioned employee of a bona fide law enforcement agency within the state of Tennessee.

(2) The officer must have been performing such officer's official duties for such officer's agency at the time of the death.

54-5-1006. This memorial shall be a lasting tribute to the officer and such officer's life of purpose and commitment to the public welfare.

54-5-1007. The department of transportation shall be directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers, in both directions on the designated interstate, U.S. highway or state highway.

(a) The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

(b) This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administration advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed within.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002, the public welfare requiring it.